



By Maykirk,  
a sweet bird sang

William Jackson  
of Masham  
(1815-1866)

**William Jackson** of Masham (1815–1866) was born in Masham, Yorkshire, England, leaving school at age 13 to work in his father’s mill and a bakery. With the help of his father, he built his own organ patterned after the barrel organ in the parish church. He mostly taught himself music and took lessons in Ripon. He learned to play 15 instruments by early adulthood. Briefly working as a tallow chandler, he held several organist positions including Masham Parish Church; St. John’s Church, Bradford; and Horton Lane Independent Church. He was conductor of the Bradford Choral Union and chorusmaster of Bradford Festivals. In 1858, he took a choir to Buckingham Palace to perform before Queen Victoria. He died in Bradford. His son William also was an organist and composer. His compositions include oratorios; cantatas; a psalm for solo, choir and orchestra; works for military band, sacred music, glees; part-songs; and songs.

This piece is attributed to William Jackson of Masham (1815–1866) by the British Library and others, but it may have been composed by his son William Jackson (1853–1877) who also was an organist and composer.

By Marykirk, a sweet bird sang  
When trees were green and waters clear;  
That sweet bird sang the hale day lang,  
And charm’d the hearts o’ men to hear.  
But down upon a flow’ry bank  
The wily fowler laid his snare,  
And in a weary prison cage  
The sweet bird pin’d, and sang nae mair.

By Marykirk there bloom’d a flow’r,  
Beside the winding Esk it grew;  
And, oh, it charm’d the sunny light,  
And ilka wanton wind that blew.  
But rude hands pu’d that flow’r sae sweet,  
And fause lips kiss’d its leaves sae fair;  
It faded in a cheerless bow’r,  
And charm’d the sight o’ men nae mair.

By Marykirk the birds may sing,  
But dowie are their notes to me;  
On Craigo haughs the flow’rs may bloom,  
But now nae mair delight my e’e.  
O Mary! tho’ ye did me wrang,  
I’m wae to think o’ your downfa’;  
Poor silly bird, sae eithly snar’d,  
Sweet flow’r, soon pu’d and flung awa’.

Thomas Watson (1555–1592)

# By Marykirk, a sweet bird sang

Wm. Jackson

Not too fast

S *mp* By Mar - y - kirk, a sweet bird sang When trees were green and wa - ters

A *mp* By Mar - y - kirk, a sweet bird sang When trees were green and wa - ters

T *mp* By Mar - y - kirk, a sweet bird sang When trees were green and wa - ters

B *mp* By Mar - y - kirk, a sweet bird sang When trees were green and wa - ters

5  
S clear; That sweet bird sang the\_ hale day lang, And\_ charm'd the\_ hearts o'\_\_ men to

A clear; That sweet bird sang the hale day lang, And\_ charm'd the hearts o' men to

T clear; That sweet bird sang the hale day lang, And charm'd\_ the hearts o' men to\_

B clear; That sweet bird sang the\_ hale day lang, And charm'd the hearts o' men to



## By Marykirk, a sweet bird sang

9

S *p* hear. But down up - on a flow'r - y bank *cresc.* The wil - y fowl - er laid his snare, *p* And in a

A *p* hear. But down up - on a flow'r - y bank *cresc.* The wil - y fowl - er laid his snare, *p* And in a

T *p* hear. But down up - on a flow'r - y bank *cresc.* The wil - y fowl - er laid his snare, *p* And in a

B *p* hear. But down up - on a flow'r - y bank *cresc.* The wil - y fowl - er laid his snare, *p* And in a

14

S *dim. e rall.* wear - y pris - on cage The sweet bird pin'd, and sang nae mair.

A *dim. e rall.* wear - y pris - on cage The sweet bird pin'd, and sang nae mair.

T *dim. e rall.* wear - y pris - on cage The sweet bird pin'd, and sang nae mair.

B *dim. e rall.* wear - y pris - on cage The sweet bird pin'd, and sang nae mair.

**a tempo**

18

S *mp* By Mar - y - kirk there bloom'd a flow'r, Be - side the wind - ing Esk it

A *mp* By Mar - y - kirk there bloom'd a flow'r, Be - side the wind - ing Esk it

T *mp* By Mar - y - kirk there bloom'd a flow'r, Be - side the wind - ing Esk it

B *mp* By Mar - y - kirk there bloom'd a flow'r, Be - side the wind - ing Esk it

By Maryhirk, a sweet bird sang

22

S grew; And, oh, it charm'd the sun - ny light, And il - ka wan - ton wind that

A grew; And, oh, it charm'd the sun - ny light, And il - ka wan - ton wind that

T grew; And, oh, it charm'd the sun - ny light, And il - ka wan - ton wind that

B grew; And, oh, it charm'd the sun - ny light, And il - ka wan - ton wind that

26

S *p* blew. But rude hands pu'd that flow'r sae sweet, And fause lips kiss'd its leaves sae fair; It fad - ed

A *p* blew. But rude hands pu'd that flow'r sae sweet, And fause lips kiss'd its leaves sae fair; It fad - ed

T *p* blew. But rude hands pu'd that flow'r sae sweet, And fause lips kiss'd its leaves sae fair; It fad - ed

B *p* blew. But rude hands pu'd that flow'r sae sweet, And fause lips kiss'd its leaves sae fair; It fad - ed

31

S in a cheer - less bow'r, And charm'd the sight o' men nae mair.

A in a cheer - less bow'r, And charm'd the sight o' men nae mair.

T in a cheer - less bow'r, And charm'd the sight o' men nae mair.

B in a cheer - less bow'r, And charm'd the sight o' men nae mair.

## By Marykirk, a sweet bird sang

**a tempo**

35 *mp*

S By Mar - y - kirk the birds may sing, But dow - ie are their notes to me; On Craig - o

A *mp*

A By Mar - y - kirk the birds may sing, But dow - ie are their notes to me; On Craig - o

T *mp*

T By Mar - y - kirk the birds may sing, But dow - ie are their notes to me; On Craig - o

B *mp*

B By Mar - y - kirk the birds may sing, But dow - ie are their notes to me; On Craig - o

40

S haughs the flow'rs may bloom, But now nae mair de - light my

A haughs the flow'rs may bloom, But now nae mair de - light my

T haughs the flow'rs may bloom, But now nae mair de - light my

B haughs the flow'rs may bloom, But now nae mair de - light my

43 *p* *cresc.* *p*

S e'e. O Mar - y! tho' ye did me wrang, I'm wae to think o' your down - fa'; Poor sil - ly

A *p* *cresc.* *p*

A e'e. O Mar - y! tho' ye did me wrang, I'm wae to think o' your down - fa'; Poor sil - ly

T *p* *cresc.* *p*

T e'e. O Mar - y! tho' ye did me wrang, I'm wae to think o' your down - fa'; Poor sil - ly

B *p* *cresc.* *p*

B e'e. O Mar - y! tho' ye did me wrang, I'm wae to think o' your down - fa'; Poor sil - ly

By Marykirk, a sweet bird sang

48

S  
bird, sae eith - ly snar'd, Sweet flow'r, soon pu'd and flung a - wa'.  
*dim. e rall.*

A  
bird, sae eith - ly snar'd, Sweet flow'r, soon pu'd and flung a - wa'.  
*dim. e rall.*

T  
bird, sae eith - ly snar'd, Sweet flow'r, soon pu'd and flung a - wa'.  
*dim. e rall.*

B  
bird, sae eith - ly snar'd, Sweet flow'r, soon pu'd and flung a - wa'.  
*dim. e rall.*

Novello and Co.  
(1926)

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